



River Herring Initiative



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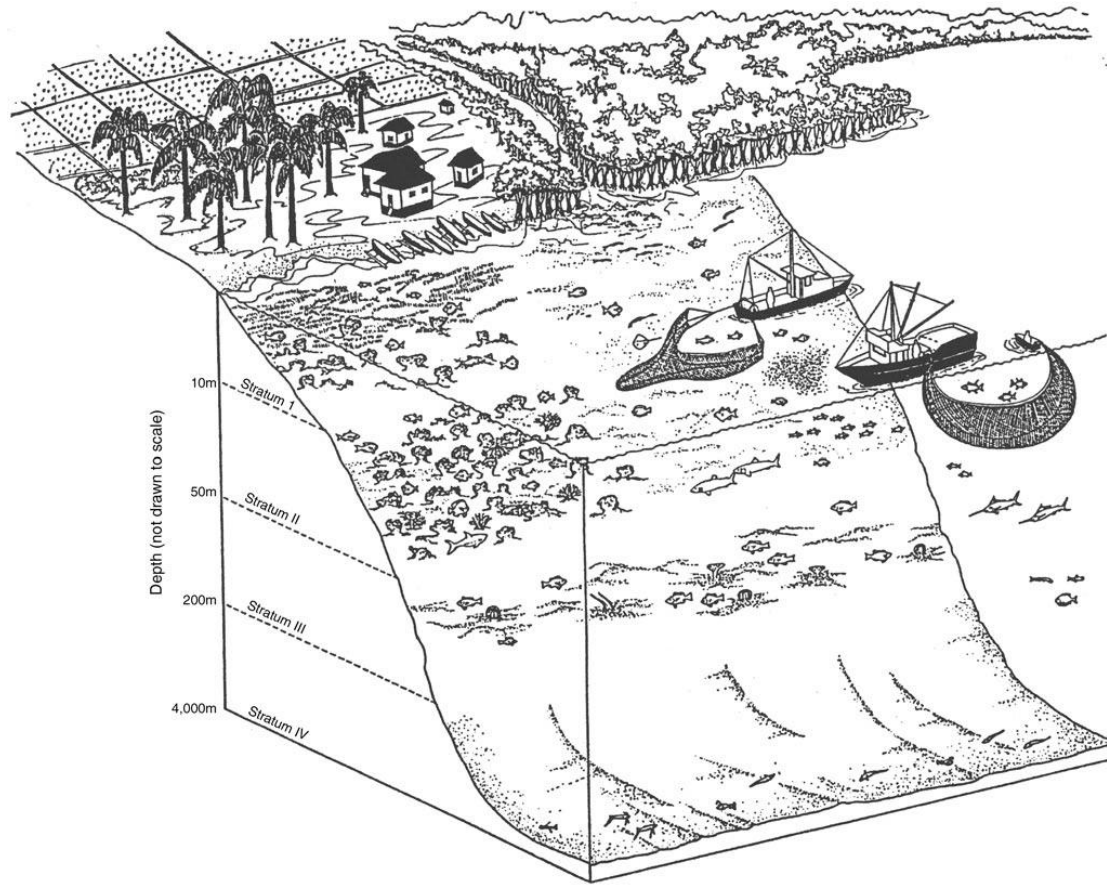


NFWF

Working to **Restore the Health of the Marine and Coastal Environment**



Marine and Coastal Environment: Conservation Initiatives



Key Habitats:

Coral Reefs

Shellfish reefs

Estuaries: marshes, seagrass beds, mangroves, kelp forests, beaches, mudflats

Semi Enclosed Seas: Gulf of Mexico

Additional Habitats: Great Lakes

Key Species:

Sea Turtles

Diadromous Fish

Seabirds

Marine Mammals

Schematic of Coastal System (Pauly et al. 1998)

River Herring Conservation

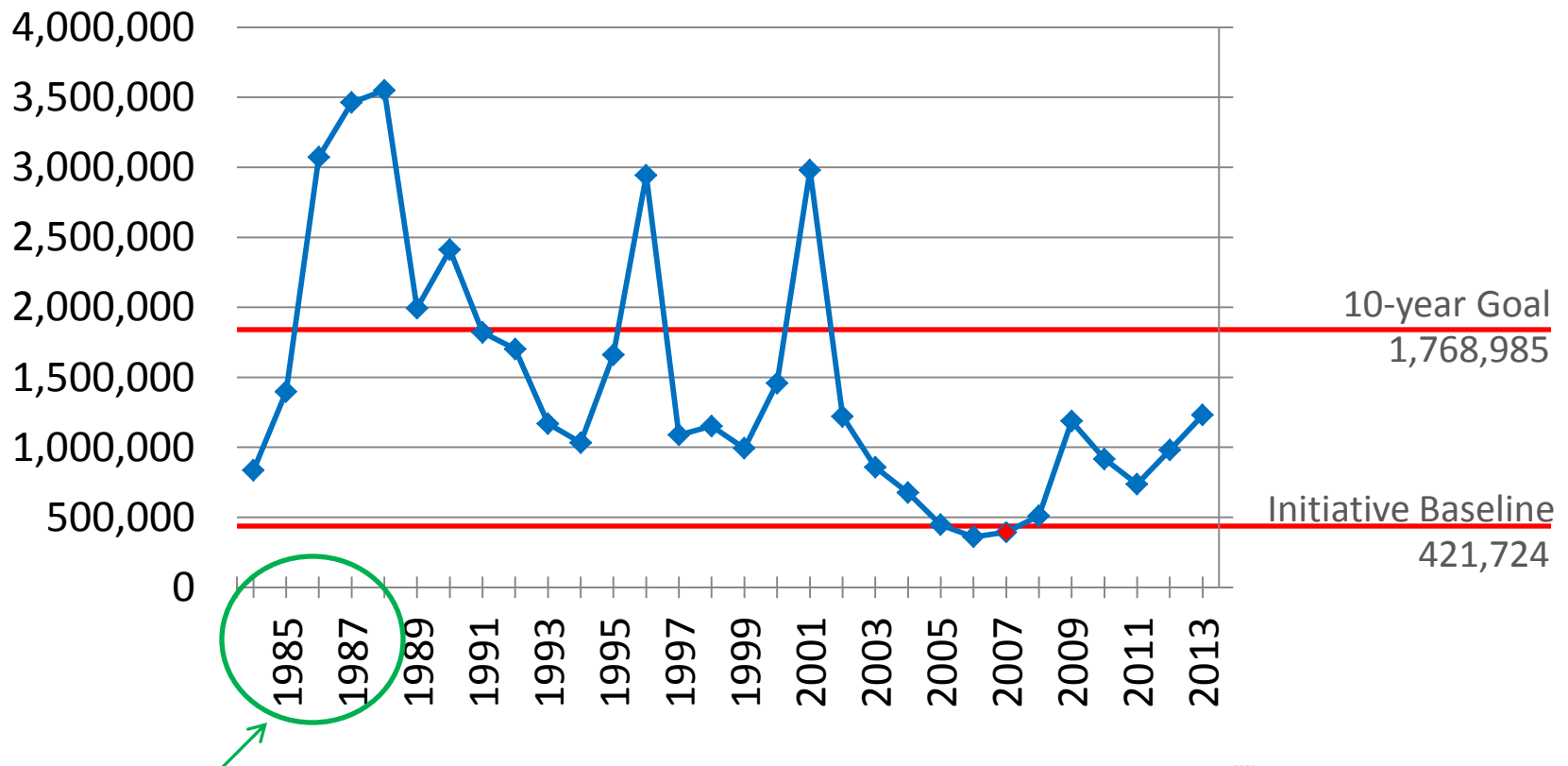
NFWF's River Herring Initiative will seek to support a 300% increase in abundance in key rivers on the east coast by:

1. Promoting sustainable directed in-river fisheries
2. Implementing incentives for fishing fleets to avoid bycatch in ocean fisheries
3. Establishing population benchmarks to measure success of conservation actions
4. Restoring access to key spawning and nursery habitats



River Herring Goal

Run Counts at Index Sites



10 yr. goal: return to levels seen in the mid 80's



NFWF

River Herring Index Sites

Assessment Recommendation: Some modifications to goals and focal rivers are warranted to ensure highest value impact across desired river herring range

Maine

- St. Croix
- Penobscot
- Damariscotta
- Androscoggin

New Hampshire

- Cocheco
- Oyster
- Lamprey

Massachusetts

- Monument

Rhode Island

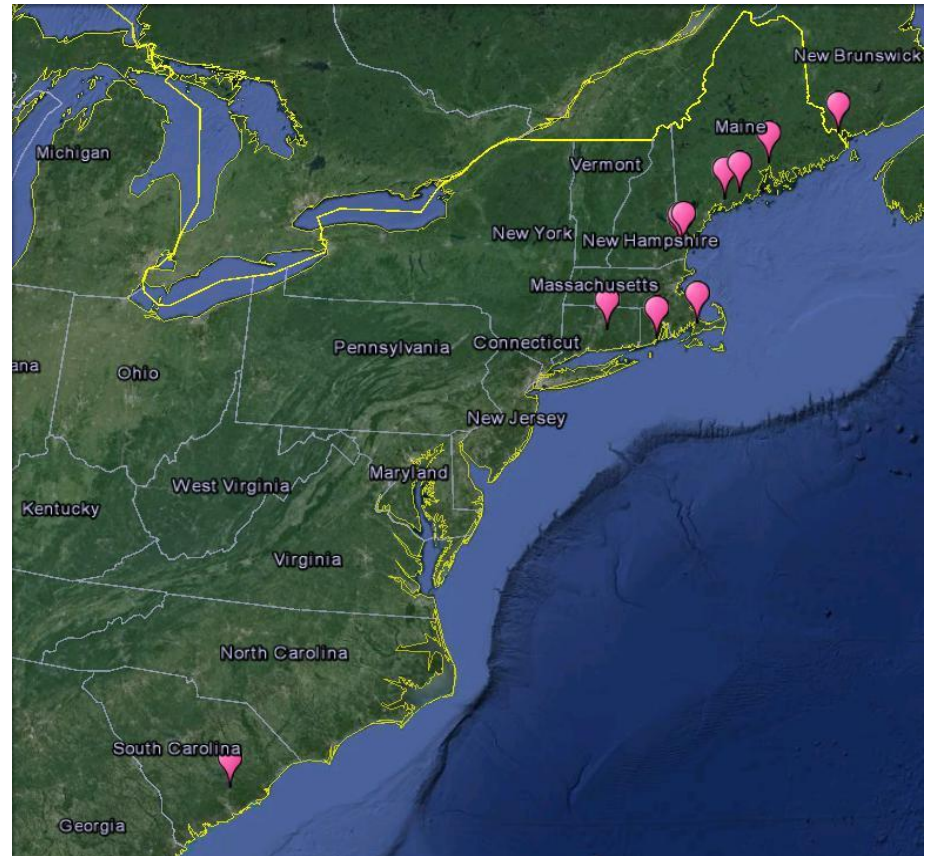
- Gilbert-Stuart

Connecticut

- Connecticut

South Carolina

- Santee-Cooper





River Herring

Scorecard: September 2014

Program Duration:

2009 - 2019 (yr 5 of 10)

Program Investment:

NFWF Funding

\$4.1M \$15.1M (27%) *

Grantee Match

\$3.8M

Ratio: 0.9:1

Program Coverage:



Species Outcomes:



River Herring

River Herring

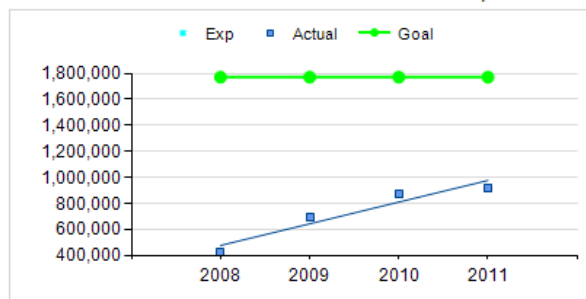
Goal

Increase the individuals at coastal index sites from 421,724 to 1,770,000

Progress

37%

Updated 2011



Initiative Strategies	Progress	Conservation and Funding Goals
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Habitat Restoration:

Conservation goal **73%** 1,500 Fish passage improvements: miles of stream opened - 1,096 to date

Funding goal **13%** \$6.7M Awarded: \$857,505

Habitat Management:

Conservation goal **101%** 39,000 Improved management practices: Acres under improved management - 39,214 to date

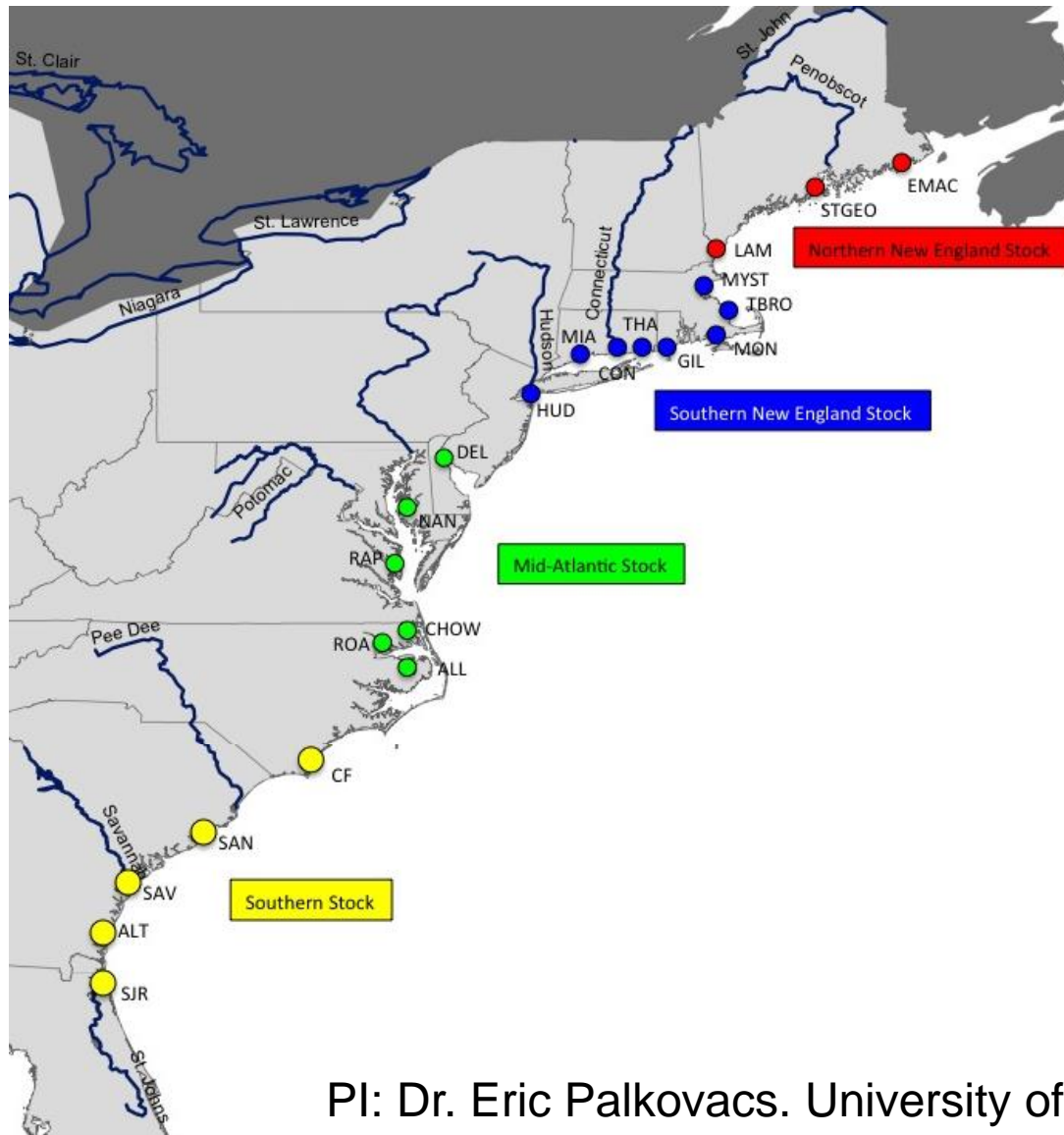
Funding goal **27%** \$1.5M Awarded: \$400,483

* \$15.1 Million is a cost estimate. NFWF does not have an endowment, and therefore fundraises for all the funds it awards

Measuring Initiative progress: Scorecard



Blueback Herring likely Stock Structure



One NFWF-funded grant found there to be 4 distinct blueback herring stocks. Partners have suggested we adapt the business plan to reflect a population goal for each stock.

Northern New England – counts at index sites suggest this stock is starting to do well

Southern New England – counts at index sites are not conclusive

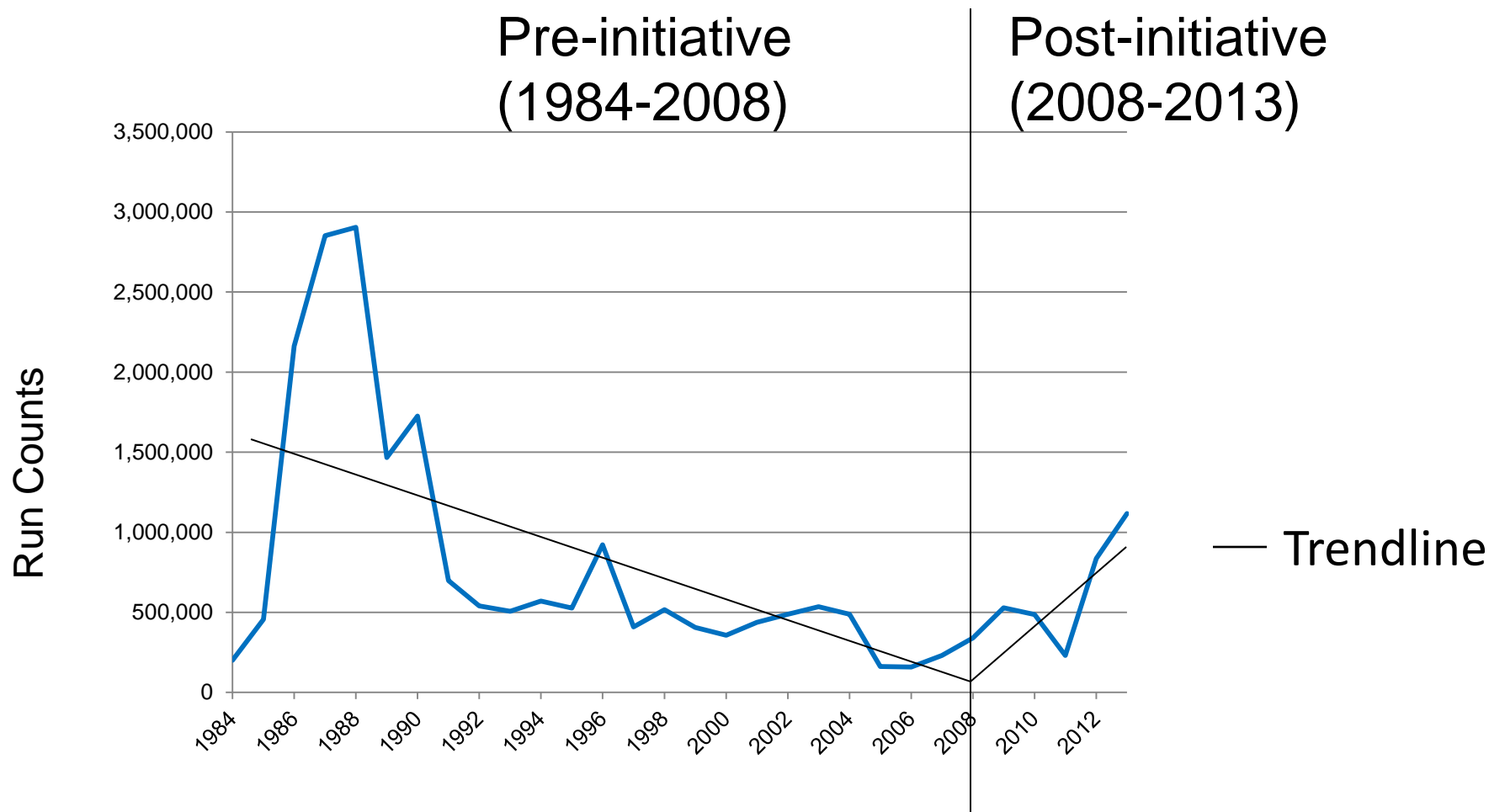
Mid-Atlantic – NFWF has no index sites in this region due to a lack of historic data from which to measure progress

Southern – counts at index sites are not conclusive

PI: Dr. Eric Palkovacs. University of Santa Cruz

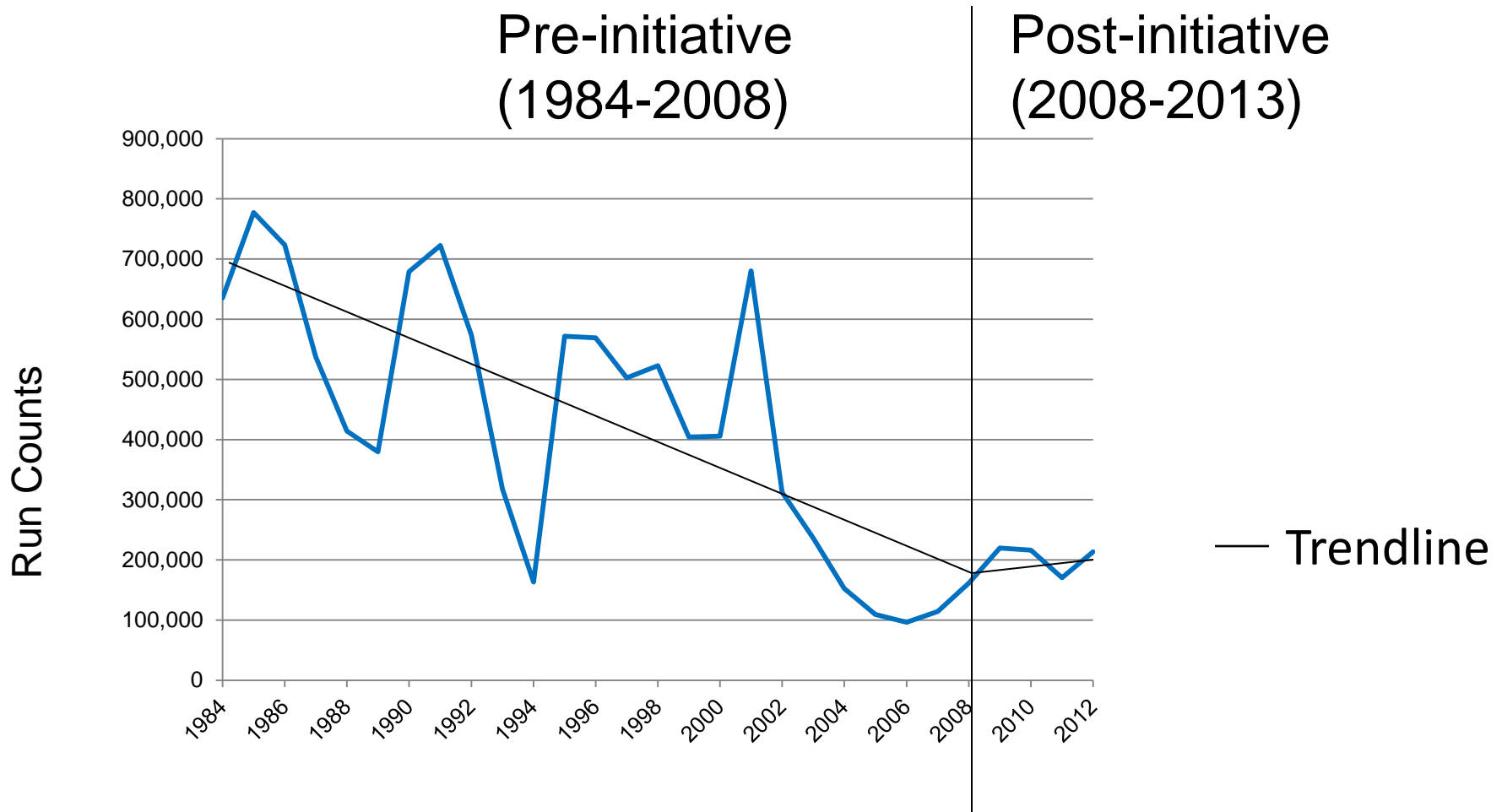


Trends – Northern New England



Note: NFWF recognizes that our grants are one of many factors that are contributing to the trends

Trends – Southern New England



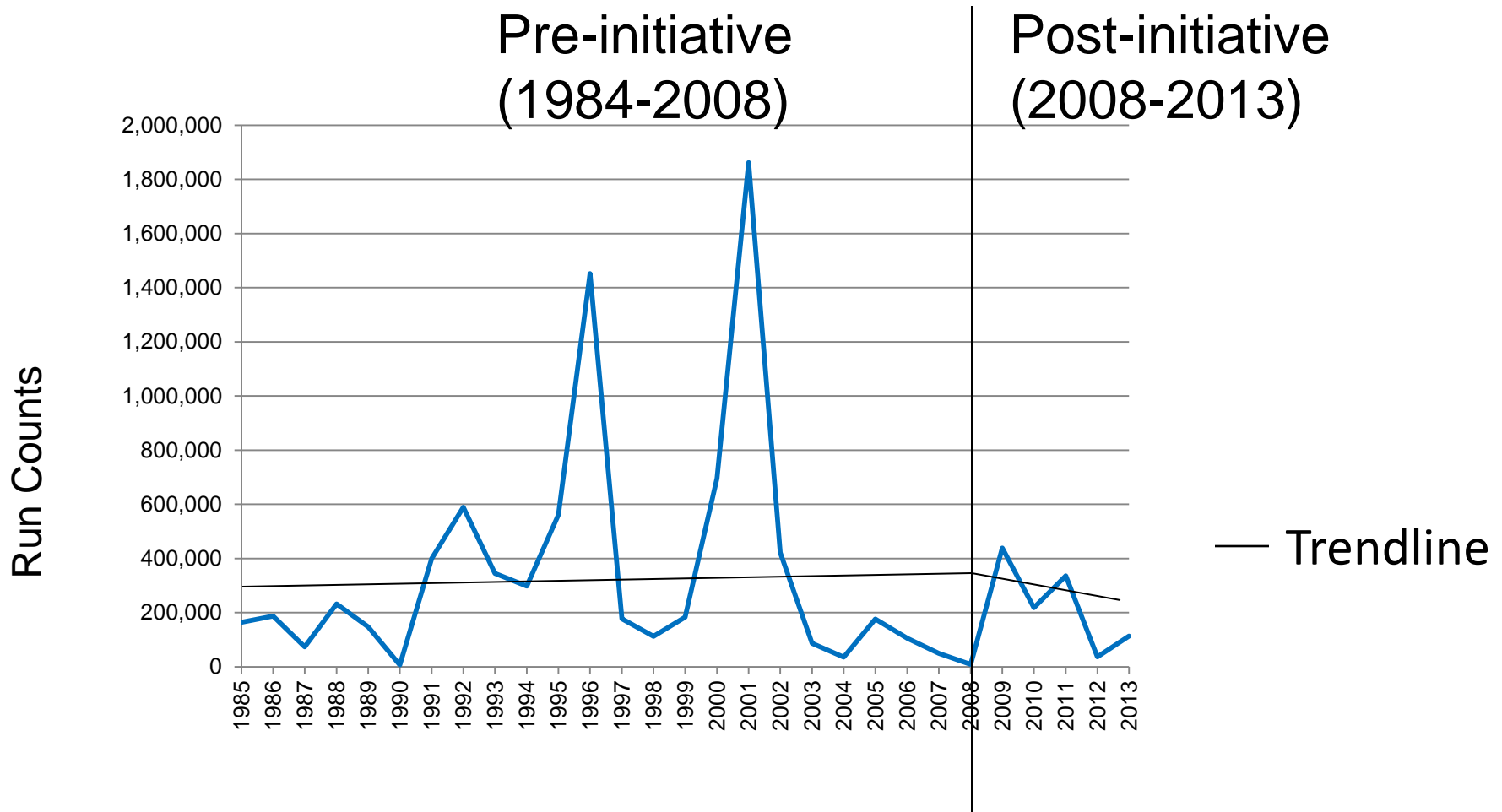
Note: NFWF recognizes that our grants are one of many factors that are contributing to the trends

Trends – Mid-Atlantic



There is insufficient run count data to determine population trends for this stock, and NFWF has no index sites in this region because it lacks historic data from which to measure progress. Recently, we have invested in a project to establish run counts in Chesapeake Bay tributaries. Once completed, this data could be used to establish run count goals for this stock, if the decision is made to establish stock-specific goals in the business plan.

Trends – Southern



Note: NFWF recognizes that our grants are one of many factors that are contributing to the trends

Next steps

- Awaiting results from prioritization by ACFHP and ASMFC
- Implement monitoring plan and restoration actions in the Chesapeake bay region
- Two Requests for Proposals per year
- Likely exit by 2018



Questions?



Thank You



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